The scheme for the introduction of Land Mortgage Banks should be given effect to immediately to provide long-term capital for agricultural improvements.

Lastly, the member requested that immediate measures should be adopted to stem the tide of the great economic depression in the country and welcomed the proposal to appoint a committee mentioned in the Dewan's opening address.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Mathai Mathew. The two new subjects which you suggested towards the close of your representation relate to matters which have come up before the Assembly and they are being considered by Government. I would request you to leave it at that.

With regard to the subjects of your representation, there was a committee appointed in your taluk for finding out what swampy areas could be disafforested. They recommended disafforestation of several blocks. Notifications regarding the disafforestation of some of the blocks have been issued and some parts have already been disafforested. As regards the others, they are in the processes of disafforestation and the department concerned will be asked to expedite the operation.

A portion of the Kodumon Reserve has already been taken up for dissafforestation. The experts connected with forestry are of opinion that the other portions have to be retained as forests. The portions that have already been earmarked for disafforestation will be disafforested and registered.

With regard to the ryots' roads, the policy of the Government is as far as possible to take them over for departmental maintenance when they are properly constructed and if they satisfy the conditions laid down in the rules for their being taken over. The Chief Engineer will be asked to see if the roads which you mentioned satisfy the conditions; and if they do, they will be taken over for maintenance by the department.

Your suggestions with regard to the Road Board will be considered when the constitution of the Road Board is revised.

The other matters that you represented will also receive the careful consideration of Government.

116. Needs of the Tiruvalla taluk.

MR. KANAKKU KESAVA PILLAI PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Tiruvalla taluk, Group I*), speaking in Malayalam, dealt with the following needs of the Tiruvalla taluk :—

The Vengal-Alanthuruthi road, which, after passing through Tiruvalla town, Kavumbhagom, Peringol, Vengal and Alanthuruthi, joined the main road to Changanachery, remained to be improved for a length of 3 furlongs. This portion of the road should be improved and the culverts required should be constructed. Similarly, the works connected with the Mepral road branching off from the above road at Peringol

should be completed immediately, as otherwise, the earth work already done by the department would be washed away by flood water.

The road from Mannar to Valiakarimpuzha *kadavu* should be metalled and improved and made fit for cart traffic. This subject was urged at many of the previous sessions of the Assembly, but nothing had been done yet in the matter.

The Tiruvalla-Kozhencherry road was an important road. But some portions of the road used to be submerged under water during rainy season. At other places the road was very narrow. Hence the road should be widened and its level raised.

The road from Tiruvalla town to the Chakrasala *kadavu* should be extended southward for a length of two miles, so as to join the Tiruvammandur road. The urgent necessity of the road was represented at the 22nd session of the Assembly. A ferry service should also be introduced at the Chakrasala *kadavu* during the monsoon months.

The trace from Mannar road to Ittynayar *kadavu* was only a mile in length. If this road was improved and metalled, it would be a short cut from Mannar to Chengannur *via* Budhanur. A road had been completed from Chengannur to the above *kadavu*. To make it really useful, this portion of the road should be completed.

The Pamba river, the Manimala river and their branches should be connected by opening a canal starting from the southern portion of the town and joining the Pamba river at the other end. This would facilitate means of communication and would also serve for irrigational purposes.

Lastly, the member spoke about the need for reforming the Road Boards and the Irrigation Boards. The Road Boards and the Irrigation Boards were not functioning properly. The prosperity of a country depended mainly on the facilities of means of communication it afforded. The Government were not bestowing sufficient attention on this matter. There were still many parts of the State which had not facilities of communication either through land or water. By conducting one or two Road Board meetings every year at certain centres of the State or by travelling through the main roads of the country, the members of the Boards or the Government would not be able to know the real difficulties of the people, inhabiting the villages. In reply to two members who urged the need for abolishing the Road Boards, on the ground that these were not functioning properly, the Dewan had said that the working of the Boards should be watched for some time and if any defects were found in it, the constitution of the Boards would be suitably modified. The Road Boards should be reformed by constituting Village Boards in each *pakuthi* and Taluk Boards in each taluk, in addition to the existing District Boards. The members of the Taluk Boards should be elected by the Village Boards, the members of the District Boards by the Taluk Boards and the members of the Central Board by the District Boards.

For irrigation purposes, a separate department should be established and under it Village, Taluk, District and Central Irrigation Boards should be constituted. The head of the department should be the President of the Board and he should be bound by the opinion of the majority of the members of the Board.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Paramesvaran Pillai. Your representation refers to many roads and other means of communication in your taluk. You yourself concede that some of them have been taken up and partly finished; all that is now wanted is that the further progress of these works should be expedited. The Chief Engineer will be asked to expedite the works as far as possible.

As regards your other suggestions, they will all be considered—those which require investigation will be investigated and upon reports received, orders will be passed. I would only say just one word with regard to some of these matters. You said that all of them were items of work which could be taken up with very limited expenditure. I must say that at least one of the items, *viz.*, connecting the Varattar, the Manimala river and the Chakrasala *kadavu* is an item of work which could not be done without a large amount of money. Even though it is, on the face of it, a costly scheme, that too will be investigated.

There were representations by previous speakers about the Road Board. I have given them a reply with which, you said, you yourself agree. The suggestions that you have made as to the way in which the Road Board should be improved will be considered when the question of the revision of the constitution of the Board is taken up for consideration.

117. Needs of the Tiruvalla taluk.

MR. K. GOPALA PANIKKAR KRISHNA PANIKKAR (*Municipal Council, Tiruvalla*) first spoke about the necessity for the establishment of a Magistrate's Court at Tiruvalla. From 1048 to 1098, there was a Magistrate's Court at Tiruvalla. It was abolished in 1098, as a result of the separation of the Revenue and Magisterial functions. In consideration of the development in respect of education, traffic and commerce, witnessed by the taluk, it deserved to have the old Magistrate's Court restored to it. The people of the taluk were experiencing much inconvenience and hardships for want of the court. The subject was represented at many of the previous sessions of the Assembly, including the 26th session, when the Dewan replied that the matter was engaging the attention of the Government and that definite orders in the matter would issue before long.

The V. M. School for girls was at present housed in an old building without sufficient accommodation and ill-ventilated. The school building should be reconstructed. Further English should be introduced as an optional subject for the Vernacular School Leaving Examination, in the above school. This would make the institution more popular.